

# Brentwood NEWSLETTER



Volume XXXIII No. 11

Brentwood, New Hampshire

December 2009

## December Recycling Pick-up Dates

December 8 & 9  
December 22 & 23

## To the Editor

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyful Winter Solstice and Happy Holidays to Brentwood!

I want to share the good news that I received today at the Coop Advisory Budget Committee meeting. It seems particularly relevant and appropriate during this holiday season as we open our year-end tax bills and notice a **reduction** in property taxes! Yes: that's right. Can I repeat that? A tax **reduction**! And this is why: Brentwood's town valuation was up slightly (a little over 1%), our town tax rate was down 41 cents, our elementary school rate was down 15 cents and the Exeter Coop (middle and high schools) were down 6 cents. The county rate for our town was up 1 cent. Total reduction in tax rate: 60 cents per \$1000 valuation. In this economy and housing market, a tax decrease represents good planning for offset revenues on the part of our town's Board of Selectmen, and conservative budget planning by Brentwood's Budget Committee, the Swasey School Board, the Exeter Regional Coop Advisory Committee and the Exeter Regional Cooperative Board. It is reassuring that the cooperative efforts on the part of these fiscal agents can produce such quick results when supported by you, the voters.

*Elyse G. Seeley, Brentwood Rep.,  
Exeter Region Coop Advisory Committee*

## Santa-Around-Town

The Brentwood Fire Association will again be bringing Santa around on the fire truck, wishing everyone happy holidays and throwing candy to the children on **Saturday, December 19** with a **rain/snow date of Sunday, December 20**. We start at 10 am and we'll be traveling around town all day. Just listen for the sounds of sirens and Santa won't be far behind.

## Brentwood Fire Department Toy Drive 2009

It's that time of year when we need to put our heads together for the 9th Annual Brentwood Fire Department Toy Drive for needy families.

I am asking for your help to find families that live in the Town of Brentwood, who may need a little extra help for the holidays.

We start the process by asking schools, churches and the Welfare Department to provide an application to those families that may need a little help. Everything is confidential. The families fill out the application and mail it to the Brentwood Fire Department, attention "Toy Drive". I am the only one that will see the names. Each family is listed as a "Letter" and I make up Christmas ornaments and distribute them to the Christmas trees that will be located at the Grace Ministries Church and the Brentwood Town Office.

We then ask the residents of Brentwood to give a donation or pick an "Ornament" off the Christmas trees and return it unwrapped to one of the drop boxes which will be located at the Town Offices, Brentwood Country Store, Grace Ministries Church and the Brentwood Fire Department.

The economy is tough for all of us this year, so I am asking the families to pick items with a \$20.00 value or less. All donations are put towards un-purchased gifts and food baskets for the families.

**Final drop-off date will be Thursday, December 17, 2009.** This will give Santa and his elves time to organize the gifts and arrange for the families to pick them up. If you have any questions, please contact me at 603-944-0847.

Have a happy and healthy Holiday season!

*Donna M. Vadeboncoeur  
Toy Drive Coordinator, Brentwood Fire Department*

## Waste Tonnage Figures

	September	October
Tons, mixed solid waste	141.35	108.01
Tons, recycled goods	36.79(20.7%)	24.29(18.4%)

**TOWN OF BRENTWOOD On the Web: [www.brentwoodnh.gov](http://www.brentwoodnh.gov)****TOWN CLERK and TAX COLLECTOR:**

Phone: 642-6400 X 14

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9:00-4:30

Tuesday 9:00-8:00

Friday 8:30-4:00

Saturday 9:00-12:00

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Phone: 642-6400 X 10 Fax: 642-6310

Monday–Thursday 8:00-4:30

Friday 9:00-1:00

**MARY E. BARTLETT LIBRARY**Phone: 642-3355 E-mail: [bartlettlibrary@comcast.net](mailto:bartlettlibrary@comcast.net)On the Web: [www.brentwoodlibrary.org](http://www.brentwoodlibrary.org)

Monday 2-7 Thursday 9-5

Tuesday 9-5 Friday 9-1

Wednesday 9-5 Saturday 9-1

Story Hours: Tuesday 10:30 and 2:00 Wednesday 10:30

**SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL**

Phone: 642-3487

Swasey on the Web: <http://scs.sau16.org>SAU 16 on the Web: <http://www.sau16.org>**From the Town Clerk's Office**

Any Brentwood Resident who had a marriage, civil union, birth or death in 2009 in a state other than New Hampshire and would like the event published in the annual Town Report must send a letter of request along with a copy of the "official copy" of the event to the Town Clerk's Office.

Any Brentwood Resident who had an event occur in New Hampshire and would prefer not to have the event published must send a letter to the Clerk's Office requesting the event not be published in the Town Report.

The deadline for these letters of request is December 31, 2009.

*Phyllis Thompson, Town Clerk*

**The Food Pantry in Brentwood**

The Food Pantry for the Town of Brentwood is located at Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 197 Middle Road in Brentwood. Non-perishable food items are available for any who have need. If you would like to visit the food pantry, please call Rev. Kim McKerley at the church. The number is 778-3189.

**For the Police and Fire Departments**

Alan and Jean Clough want to thank Brentwood's Police and Fire Dept. Ambulance for coming to my aid on Sunday morning, Oct. 25th to provide life-saving breathing assistance and transport to Exeter Hospital. I am grateful that we live in a town which has dedicated individuals who are able to come to the rescue at a moment's notice. Due to your great response and care I was able to breathe again. Thanks to you all !

*Alan and Jean*

**Coat Drive at Wonderland Thrift**

A reminder that "The shop is currently sponsoring a coat drive in hopes that no one will go cold this winter. All donations of coats are welcomed and appreciated. We will also be in need of toy donations as the holidays draw near. As you know, all items in the shop are sold at low thrifty prices and proceeds go back into the community each month through charitable organizations and community causes.

"Wonderland Thrift Shop is located at 96 Epping Road (Route 27) in Exeter. For more information, call 793-4284 or visit [www.wonderlandthrift.org](http://www.wonderlandthrift.org)."

**THE BRENTWOOD NEWSLETTER**

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Linda Rousseau, Editor 772-4534

Marion Arkell, Treasurer, 772-6314

Ann Chamberlain, 642-8758

Jim Clark, 580-1012

Brad Stevens

Business Card Directory: \$20 per insertion, available in April, September &amp; December issues.

Business Article: \$100 half page, \$200 full page, available in any issue.

**Deadline for January Issue: Wednesday, Dec. 23**

Mail or bring your articles to Linda Rousseau, 90 Prescott Road, Brentwood, NH 03833,  
or e-mail to [lindarou@rcn.com](mailto:lindarou@rcn.com)

## **Dedication of Veterans' Monument**

**Tonry Cemetery, November 8, 2009**



Taking part in the dedication of the Veterans' Monument were, from left, Spc. Todd Olofson, US Army; Cpl. Nathan Flagg, US Marine Corps; Maj. Michael Blair, US Air Force; Master Sergeant Raymond Drury, US Air Force; CPO Jon Worrall, US Navy; Col. John Gary, US Air Force; and Seaman Noel Codero, US Coast Guard.

On a beautiful Indian Summer day at the Tonry Cemetery in Brentwood, the Cemetery Trustees recently hosted a moving ceremony in which a new Veterans' Monument was dedicated to all men and women with ties to Brentwood who have served our country in uniform. The date was November 8 and the time was 11 o'clock in the morning, an hour chosen to remind those in attendance of the first Veterans' Day – originally called Armistice Day – when World War I officially ended on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11:00 a.m.

After welcoming the assemblage, among which were active and veteran servicemen and women in full uniform, a blessing on the event was invoked by Trustee Albert Edward Belanger.

Almighty God, thank You for the gift of life and for this beautiful planet and for our magnificent country and for the wonderful town we live in. And thank You for inspiring our Founding Fathers in their construction of our unique form of government that acknowledges that You have created us all equal in Your sight and have granted us certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. And grant a special blessing today on Brentwood veterans of the Marines, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, and Air Force who have preserved and protected us over these past 233 years since those Founding Fathers began this great experiment in self-government and in whose honor we dedicate this monument today. Amen

Corporal Nathan Flagg and Specialist Todd Olofson were invited to step forward to assist Cemetery Superintendent Norman Lemoine in the raising of the American flag. Then the flag was lowered to half-mast in honor of the servicemen who were killed in the tragic Fort Hood incident a few days before. Subsequently, US Air Force Col. John Gary, along with Cub, Girl, and Boy Scouts and their leaders, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and to the country for which it stands.

Chief Petty Officer Jon Worrall, recipient of the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in the Iraq War, addressed the group. Worrall's brief remarks included a plea to seek out a veteran-in-need and offer appropriate assistance. An invitation to all veterans present to identify themselves by raising their hands was followed by a strong round of grateful applause.

At a given signal, Major Michael Blair and Seaman Noel Codero performed the honor of unveiling the memorial stone. Inscribed on the gray granite monument are the words, "DEDICATED TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF BRENTWOOD WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY WITH HONOR," below which are etched the insignias of each of the five branches of the Armed Forces. Beautifully adorning the face of the stone at the top, is a full-color, unfurling American flag painted in enamel.

Three empty flag holders had been positioned on either side of the monument pending the next ceremony, in which the following men and woman in uniform each in turn placed a flag representing Brentwood veterans of their respective branches of the Armed Forces:

Corporal Nathan Flagg, United States Marine Corps  
Chief Petty Officer Jon Worrall, United States Navy

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Continued from page 3

Specialist Todd Olofson, United States Army  
Seaman Noel Codero, United States Coast Guard  
Major Michael Blair, United States Air Force

Lastly, US Air Force Master Sergeant Raymond Drury placed a flag at the monument in honor of all members of the Armed Services who have been Prisoners of War.

In closing, Belanger suggested that every time each of the attendees gazes on this monument, a silent prayer of thanksgiving be said for those brave Brentwood veterans it honors, without whom we would not be enjoying the precious blessings of freedom secured for

us through their honorable military service.

The Brentwood Historical Society will be putting together a souvenir scrapbook of the event. Anyone who would like to donate copies of photos taken at the affair can send them (with identification of faces, if known) to the Brentwood Historical Society, Town Office, Dalton Road, Brentwood, NH 03833.

#### ***The Brentwood Cemetery Trustees***

*John Stevens, Douglas Finan, Albert Edward Belanger*

*Clerk/Bookkeeper : Phyllis Thompson*

*Superintendent: Norman Lemoine*



Veterans who were not in uniform were present in force at the dedication of the Veterans' Monument. From left to right, Douglas Finan, unidentified woman, Jesse R. Elliott, Sean Cordier (Scout leader), Stephen Edward Belanger, Norman Lemoine, Karl Van Kampen, Thomas Ryan (Scout leader). Kenneth Smith (rear, with sunglasses), Kevin Johnston (rear, in dark ball cap), Stacey Leach, and unidentified man in light ball cap.

### **Energy Innovations for SAU 16**

The Exeter Region Cooperative has entered into a contract with Revolution Energy to provide solar panels for Exeter High School and a microturbine system at the Tuck Learning Campus. This unique undertaking will use existing funds for utilities and will not impact taxpayers with any additional costs. Chief Financial Office Nathan Lunney spearheaded this project and worked collaboratively with various businesses to craft an initiative which will be touted as monumental within the state.

Less than 10% of the roof of Exeter High School will be used to install the largest solar array (60kW) in New Hampshire. This will also provide the foundation for future projects. At the Tuck Learning Campus the oil-fired heating system that is used currently to provide hot

water and steam heat to the northern part of the campus will be replaced and jointed to the natural gas system at the Seacoast School of Technology (southern part of the campus) by a microturbine that will provide both heat and power. Together this project will reduce carbon emissions by an estimated 532 tons per year, which is equal to 15% of the carbon emissions currently produced by these facilities.

Students and teachers from the Seacoast School of Technology and the Cooperative Middle School will be involved in various curriculum aspects of this project.

*Selected from the October 2009 "Superintendent's Report"  
by Michael A. Morgan, Supt. of Schools, SAU 16*

## What's Happening at Swasey

The staff has identified goals for this school year:

- 1) Classroom teachers will participate in an organized process to identify Power (essential) Standards and relevant tools for assessment at all grade levels in all curriculum areas.
- 2) Staff will actively continue the journey of 'greening' Swasey Central School by encouraging recycling and implementing good energy conservation strategies (turning off lights, lowering heat, reducing paper use, etc.).
- 3) Professional staff members will use available technology to supplement classroom instruction, enhance student learning, and improve internal and external communication.
- 4) Staff will implement and model *The Responsive Classroom*® strategies/techniques throughout the school day to support learning and positive social interaction within our educational community.

Almost all of the time designated for the three monthly staff meetings is being used to further the goals and address professional development. To date, the grade level teams have been hard at work identifying those curriculum standards that are essential to students successfully moving on to the next grade. This is the base on which to build instruction for all students. Teams are identifying formative and summative assessments that are already in place as well as those that should be added to fill any gaps. Later this year, the report cards will be revised to reflect how each child is progressing in mastering the standards. Several of the elementary districts including Brentwood are moving towards a trimester reporting system. This will better support our instructional goals. There will be three formal report cards and three mid-term progress conversations or reports to communicate growth to parents. More information will be provided to parents and the community as this process moves forward.

At Swasey, we are recycling paper, cardboard, and plastic bottles. The fourth grade students oversee this process, collecting the materials for pick-up each week. Everyone in our school community is making an effort to embrace greening as a goal. Classroom, office, and hallway lighting has been reduced and lights are turned off in empty rooms. Computers, printers, and monitors are turned off each afternoon. Web based reporting to parents and the community is being used as much as possible. The school is trying to create an email list to reduce the number of paper announcements being sent home.

Using technology as an instructional tool is a priority. The school has been able to purchase laptops and some Smart Boards through grant money. Staff has been deeply involved in professional development to enhance their skills with these tools and to increase their knowledge regarding using them to improve instruction

and student learning. Many of our staff are involved in a cohort focused on Powerful Learning Practices. There are several professional book groups meeting as well.

The importance of having a strong social curriculum as a framework for the academic curriculum is well researched and documented. All Swasey staff members have a strong commitment to the *Responsive Classroom*® model.

Contracted school hours are almost exclusively devoted to direct student instruction/contact. Teachers have one forty-minute planning period per day to use to meet with related service providers and building administrators regarding student needs, assessment, and school issues. Grade level teams meet at least once a week to discuss curriculum and instruction. There are approximately twenty additional student-free minutes each day that are used for parent communication and organization.

While the rigors of the daily schedule at Swasey are not unlike those of other elementary schools in the state, what makes Swasey special is the consummate professionalism of its faculty and staff. Whether it is working well past the contracted hours to meet the increasing demands of instruction or constantly challenging themselves to grow as learners, they go above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of their students. The School Board and Swasey staff will make every effort to inform the community regarding the achievements and needs of our school and our children. It is important that the necessary resources are available to provide Brentwood children with the school experience that they need and deserve.

We are proud to announce that 3rd grade teacher Amy Cantone has been nominated to the New Hampshire Society for Technology in Education for the Technology-Using Educator Award. Joan Ostrowski was nominated by Swasey staff members and is a finalist for Elementary Principal of the Year.

The School Board has been hard at work developing a budget proposal for the 2010-2011 school year. This needs to be supportive of the educational needs of the children while being fiscally responsible in these difficult economic times. This budget will be discussed further at the **next Board meeting** which has been **changed to Monday, December 7 at 6:15 p.m.** and will be in the Swasey library. The Board will make their initial presentation of the budget to the Brentwood Budget Committee on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

*Joan Ostrowski, Principal  
Swasey Central School*

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The Brentwood Fire Department provided an exciting fire safety program to all of the Swasey Central School 3rd and 4th graders in late September.

### Swasey Parent Faculty Group

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Swasey School Library. Come and join us!

Would you like a second Swasey Phone Book? Maybe you need one for your car or your desk at work! Get a second phone book for \$2 in the Main Office.

**New Snowshoes** for the Physical Education Department! The PFG was able to assist the P.E. department in purchasing a new set of snowshoes for all of the children to enjoy this winter season.

**Clip those Boxtops!** Check out our website for lots of fun new ways to collect box tops! Don't forget to tell your Grandfriends to bring them in on November 24! Have everyone you know clip their Box Tops and send them in!! We can do it!!!

Visit our website for more information:  
<http://swaseypfg.pbworks.com/>.

*Deb Carr*

### Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library

It's always a pleasure this time of year to mention simple acts of kindness, and then there are the not so simple things people do for us. We recently had the distinct pleasure of having children's author, Tui Sutherland, come to visit. As we knew Tui is expecting her first child, we thought a baby quilt would make a nice thank you. Bea Matheson made us the quilt out of terrific Dick and Jane fabric (remember the duo and their dog, Spot?) and Karen Ellis was kind enough to do the quilting. Tui enjoyed her quilt thoroughly and also the children who came to meet the author. Thank you, Tui, Bea and Karen for your acts of kindness.

This will be short and sweet as we know how busy all of you are during this time of year.

The **Friday Night Flick** for **December 11 at 7:00 p.m.** is *Santa Buddies*, rated PG, and *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, based on the perennial favorite book by Judi Barrett and also rated PG will be shown on January 8, same time, same place.

Our **Ladies' Night** at the Movies for Thursday, **December 17 at 7:00 p.m.** is *Julie & Julia*, rated PG 13. Yes, there will be Christmas goodies and a raffle.

The very best of the season and a happy new year to all of you from all of us at the Library.

*Marilyn Morehead.*  
 Library Director



## Brentwood Seniors



The Brentwood Seniors are pictured at The Old Salt in Hampton, enjoying their 29th Anniversary Luncheon.

The Brentwood Seniors gathered at one of their favorite eating places, The Old Salt in Hampton, to celebrate 29 years of activity since their formation in 1980. The new president Gene Orcutt offered a meaningful prayer before the luncheon, after which the conversation flowed easily from appetizer through dessert.

The annual Christmas Luncheon will take place at the Brentwood Community Center on **Wednesday, December 16**. Members are encouraged to arrive between 11:00 and 11:30 am. The business meeting will begin at 11:30, and the pot luck luncheon buffet will be served after the business meeting. Members will be called to confirm what dish they are bringing.

After lunch there will be another outstanding Christmas musical program by students from Swasey Central School, coordinated by the music instructor, Juliette Gavin.

Members are reminded to bring an **unwrapped** gift for a child, which will be given to the Fire Department's Christmas Toy Drive.

Any person over the age of 55 is welcome to join the Seniors at any time of the year, including residents of other towns. The Membership fee is \$5.00 per annum. Come and enjoy the wonderful luncheons, the enjoyable programs, and the good conversation.

*Linda Rousseau for the Seniors*

## Brentwood Recreation News

### Adult Volleyball

Our Adult pick-up volleyball program will be on Monday evenings at 7:30pm beginning Jan. 4 and running through March 29.\* We will be playing at the Swasey School gym. Registration is FREE. If you are interested in joining us, please call or email the Recreation Office with your name so I can create a list of participants. I am also looking for someone who would be interested in volunteering to oversee set-up and breakdown of the equipment each Monday night. If you might be interested in helping with that, please let me know.

\*There will be no Volleyball on the days the school is not open.

### Men's Basketball

Men's 30+ Pick-up Basketball program will be on Thursday evenings beginning December 3 at 7:30-9:00pm at the Phillips Exeter Academy gym in Exeter. Sign-up fee will depend on the number of participants for the 12 week program. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Office or on our website. Call for more information.

### Youth Basketball

The season begins Saturday, December 5 for all teams. See our website for schedules.

### Yoga Classes

**Tuesday evenings 6:30 to 7:45 pm** at the Brentwood Recreation Center. All-levels yoga classes, taught by Yoga Alliance Certified Instructor, Wilhelmina Bradley, RYT.

**\$8.00** per class, collected at the door before each class.

These will be yoga classes for anyone who has already experienced yoga, as well as for someone who would like to try yoga for the first time. Bring a yoga mat or a towel, and if you have one, a long belt to help make stretching easier. If you have a pair of yoga 'blocks,' bring them along, too! Dress in comfortable clothing for this hour-and-fifteen minute class to enjoy the benefits of yoga for strength, flexibility, and for stress-reduction in your life. **Come join us!**

### Facilities Rental

Remember there are still weekday and weekend dates available at the Community Center. Consider having your meeting, birthday party, shower, or other events at our facility. Brentwood residents receive a 50% discount off the rental rates! See our website for pictures of the Center and rental application or pick up an application at the Recreation office.

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Check out the Recreation pages on the town website, [www.brentwoodnh.gov](http://www.brentwoodnh.gov). Forms are there to be downloaded for your convenience, as well as other important information about current programs and events.

***Margaret Dullea, Recreation Director***

(603) 642-6400 ext. 20 [recreation@brentwoodnh.gov](mailto:recreation@brentwoodnh.gov)

Office hours: Mon. Tues. & Thurs. 8:30am-3:30 pm

Commission meetings 4th Tuesday night of the month at 6:30pm

## Old Fashioned Christmas Open House at Historical Society Museum Dec. 10

Greetings from the Brentwood Historical Society!

Come and join us on **Thursday, December 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm** as we celebrate an **Old Fashioned Christmas Open House**. See the displays from yesterday, listen to our story tellers as they read of times gone by and join them in recounting how they and you celebrated. Welcome in the season as we join in Christmas caroling around the Christmas tree.

And last but not least – remember what Christmas is all about as you sample our bountiful board of sweet refreshments and have a cup of Christmas cheer. To quote Tiny Tim – “God bless us every one” and from us to you – Merry Christmas everyone.

*Alma Vahey, President  
Brentwood Historical Society*

## Achievement

Brentwood resident and author **Dusty Bunker** recently did some consulting work in relation to the American Movie Classics (AMC) six-hour mini-series *The Prisoner*, starring Jim Caviesel and Ian McKellen, which aired on television in November 2009.

Dusty is the author of nine books, published internationally. Readers may visit her website [www.dustybunker.com](http://www.dustybunker.com).

## Mailing Crew for November

Many thanks on behalf of the town to the Cub Scouts of the Webelos I and Webelos II dens, their parents and their leaders, all of whom assembled the November issue of the Newsletter for mailing.

*Linda Rousseau, Editor*

## Business Card Directory

Following is an alphabetical list of those whose cards are in this month's Business Card Directory. Save these pages and consult them when you're looking for a service.

All Right Provisions – Tammi Martin  
Appliance Services, Inc. – Wayne St. Hilaire  
Arbonne International – Michelle Siudut  
Beebop Technologies – Sean Hartnett  
Brentwood Chiropractic Center – Will & Lanie Herrick  
Brentwood Country Animal Hospital – Jody Kaufman  
Brentwood Fence – Rob Thibeault  
Brentwood Power Equipment Center – David Flagg  
B's Purses – Sarah Boddy-Snee  
Buxton Oil Co. – Donna Buxton  
Cadieux's Flooring – Tom & Jill Cadieux  
Case, Lucie – Weichert Realtors  
Crawley Falls Antiques – Donna Judah  
Creative Self Storage – Rodney Barker  
Deer Hill Electric – Roger Savage  
Difeo Oil & Propane – Spencer Deal  
Discovery Toys – Elizabeth Faria  
Downward Dog Companion Dog Training – Lenore Smith  
Exeter Motor Works – Dan Gill  
Gallant, D.L., Equipment Repair – David Gallant  
Goodrich, Peter, Carpentry and Construction  
Great Horizons Property Services – Jeff Siegal  
Helping Hands Clean Up – Kim Lord  
Hometown Heating – Carol Holt  
Hub Real Estate – Michael J. Hubbard  
Leather Solutions – Doug Rice  
Mansfield, Douglas M., Attorney  
Mary Kay – Paula Beebe  
Michelle's Pet Spaw – Michelle Powers  
Mortenson-DuFresne Monumental Works – Doug Finan  
MS Trucking – Mark Stevens  
Murphy & Murphy Real Estate – Dot Murphy  
New Venture Pet Sitting – Kim Belliveau  
Northeast Passage Financial Advisors – Howard Cadwell  
Ouellet, Ronald E., CPA  
Pickpocket Arts – Bonnie Porter  
Picture Perfect Photography – Joyce & David Thomas  
Roberts, David – Easy Home Enhancements  
Seacoast Mills Building Supply – Mary Bosch  
Seekamp Environmental Consulting – Patrick Seekamp  
Stevens Pool Water – Mark Stevens  
Swasey, Russell, Carpenter-BUILDER  
Tibbetts, John D., Building & Repairs  
Tony Leclerc Insurance Agency -- Tony Leclerc  
Tracy Hines Studios at FaceWorks Plus – Tracy Hines  
Wildlife Control Operator – Dan Siudut  
William's Wondermugs – Bill Faria  
Zahn, Patricia, CPA



## To the Editor

To the citizens of Brentwood –

We wish to report to the citizens of Brentwood new disturbing information that has surfaced pertaining to the “warning” issued by Brentwood’s Town Administrator and the Brentwood Selectmen that appeared in the September 2009 Brentwood Newsletter titled the “Crawley Falls Bridge Update.”

In cautioning the residents the Town Administrator and Brentwood Selectmen levied slanderous allegation that the actions of a single abutter would result in an increase in property taxes...yet deliberately withheld the following information from the citizens of Brentwood: two other abutters to the Crawley Falls Bridge project exist, both of whom have also not signed an easement deed and apparently are not close to an agreement.

The revelation that there are three abutters not just one validates our original accusation that the Town Administrator and Selectmen’s letter is a blatant attempt to pit citizens against citizens. There is no other explanation for the purposeful concealment of pertinent information other than to incite the citizens of Brentwood.

Fellow citizens, imagine you are one of the three abutters who have not signed an easement of your property, and you read the deliberately malicious correspondence authored by the Town Administrator and Selectmen in the Brentwood Newsletter identifying one abutter as being solely responsible for the impending 20% Increase in Brentwood’s property taxes. Would you not find these actions of our elected officials injurious to said abutters?

The Town Administrator and Selectmen have irresponsibly exposed the citizens of Brentwood to three possible law suits. Their actions have been unethical and as a consequence, the constitutional rights of the three abutters have been violated under Article 2 of the State’s bill of rights.

Remember, our elected officials orchestrated this whole scheme against one citizen, in violation of their sworn oath to uphold the precepts that define their elected office.

The Town Administrator and Selectmen are solely responsible for this reprehensible attack on their neighbors.

We may be reached at jimbo444@comcast.net.

**Jim Berlo**  
**Jim Johnson**

## Historical Note

### **Post Offices**

Obtaining mail in the time of our ancestors was quite a different proposition from what it is today. People who were pleased a few years ago when Brentwood acquired a sub-station will be surprised to learn that the town at one time had five post offices. Very little information is available in regard to either locations or postmasters.

The East Brentwood office was at one time in the living room of the present Robert Bradsher home [60 Middle Road]. The 1880 Rockingham Map gives the location of the A.B. Robinson Store and Post Office between the Sharps and the Mirones.

The West Brentwood Post Office at least once was located in the office of the Fellows Mill.

The location of the Brentwood Corner office seems to have changed from time to time. The 1880 map gives evidence that it was at O. Sanborn’s, at the spot where the Waldron store stood in later years [between 207 and 209 North Road]. Mrs. Frank Bartlett was postmistress for many years in a building that was between the homes of Edward Ahearn and Mrs. John Block, where the Bartletts carried on a hand sewn shoe business.

Opposite the Walsh home (formerly the Amy Graves place) stood a small post office which was known as Gray. [Walsh was at 337 Middle Road.] George Bartlett, who lived in the Harold Hutchinson Sr. house [324 Middle Road], was postmaster there for about twenty-five years. He had a cobbler shop either in the same building or close by. There are still townspeople who remember going there for mail or to have shoes made or repaired. It is not uncommon to have mail addressed to this station today. [1967]

The Crawley’s Falls office was in the store kept by Ephraim Flanders and later by D.O. Waldron [140 Crawley Falls Rd., the present Historical Society Museum], before being moved to the L.G. James store [now Brentwood Country Store]. It is not clear whether these men were also the postmasters. However, the mail carrier did change his horses in their barns before continuing on his route.

The advent of more modern postal methods brought the rural carrier, thus dispensing with the local stations.

*From Brentwood’s 225 Years, 1742-1967, p. 101. The updated addresses are from page 16 of Notes and References to Brentwood’s 225 Years, 1742-1967, issued by the Historical Society in 1994. Both booklets are available from the Historical Society.*

## Friends of the Library

Brentwood will be welcoming **Santa Claus** to the Mary Bartlett Library for his **annual visit** on **Saturday, December 5** from 9 am to noon. Don't miss this opportunity for a personal visit with Santa. *Please bring your own camera to take pictures of your children with Santa.* There will also be craft projects for the children to enjoy. There is no charge to attend this event, but we welcome contributions for the local Food Bank.

While Santa is upstairs, please take the time to visit the **Basement Book Store**. We encourage you to send children to the Store with a list of favorite authors for you or others on their gift list. We'll help them find the right books and even wrap them up! This will likely be the last day the Basement Book Store will open until warmer weather, so be sure to stock up!

While you are thinking of holiday shopping, don't forget about the **Christmas Craft Fair**, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. This gives local crafters a little extra exposure, while offering library patrons a chance to purchase unique holiday gifts. The Friends receive 25% of crafters' sales, which is used to purchase children's books. There are some really lovely items for sale, so do check them out. Our thanks to those crafters who participate as well as those patrons who make purchases! The Fair is ongoing until Christmas. Of course, Friends merchandise also makes great gifts and is available for purchase year-round.

Our annual **Treasure Basket Raffle** is under way. Thanks to Dave Gibson for another beautiful donation. Our thanks also to the Kennish family, which has once again created and donated a beautiful **Gingerbread House** to be raffled. Both raffle items are on display at the Library, where tickets can be purchased. Sales from these raffles will benefit The Friends, and the items themselves will add a beautiful touch to your holiday décor.

On December 12 Wendy Kennish will offer a **Gingerbread House workshop** for children in grades 2 and 3. Pre-registration was required for this event; no walk-ins please. We look forward to seeing the children's creations and thank Wendy for generously offering this workshop.

By now you all have received The Friends' annual Membership Drive letter. I know because so many of you have already responded! The money raised through this drive enables the Friends to provide a great number of extras – from programming to books and furnishings - all year long. I encourage you to make a donation, however large or small. We are thrilled to say our patrons have once again **Beat the Benefactor**, matching that \$2000 donation for a third year! Thanks to all for their generosity.

As colder days creep in, please consider the Pass Programs offered through The Friends. You may want to check out the holiday activities offered at Strawberry

Banke Museum, ([www.strawberybanke.org](http://www.strawberybanke.org)), **Historic New England** ([www.historicnewengland.org](http://www.historicnewengland.org)) and **The Fells** ([www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)). Or perhaps you'd like to travel to Boston to visit the **Museum of Science** ([www.mos.org](http://www.mos.org)) or the **Children's Museum of Boston** ([www.bostonkids.org](http://www.bostonkids.org)). Next time you are at the Library, take a look at all of the pass offerings.

The Friends of the Library **monthly meeting** for December will be on **Thursday, December 3** at 9:30 am. Why don't you stop by, take a seat and find your place among the Friends? We would welcome you and your ideas. Meetings are generally held on the first Thursday of each month. Next month's date is set for **January 7**. If you would like to receive an email reminder about upcoming meetings, please send an email to [marybartlett76@yahoo.com](mailto:marybartlett76@yahoo.com) and I will gladly include you on our email list.

Amid all the bustle this time of year, be sure to take time to share the beauty and the spirit of this holiday season with your family and friends.

*Michelle Siudut, Publicity*

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## Brentwood Gardeners

The Gardeners met a week early this month, November 18, to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday. Shannon Griffin, from the flower shop attached to Churchill's, came to help us prepare holiday centerpieces. She was absolutely charming and her creations were elegant. She brought flowers that were fresh from the flower market in Boston that morning. There were roses of the richest red you ever saw. She put some with white hibiscus in a little bowl, perfect for a small table. She also brought vases, greens, foam, tape and pretty ribbon, so that we could make some beautiful centerpieces.

We'll pass on a couple of her tips. The maximum length of time that should pass between cutting the stem and getting it into water is 30 seconds. With floral foam and live flowers, never pull back on the stem once you have inserted it. The foam doesn't rebound to fill in the empty space, which might create the possibility of forming an air bubble.

Shannon showed us a very pretty arrangement of star fruit and cranberries. One fills a clear glass vase with cranberries and arranges slices of star fruit on the outside of the inside, so one sees the stars against a cranberry background. The cranberry-filled vase then can be used to support a floral arrangement.

Now that we have given you some details of what our meetings are like, we urge those who like hands-on activity with excellent guidance to come and join us! For information call Diantha Wade, president, 772-5217.

*Linda Rousseau for the Gardeners*

## **Brentwood's 9th Annual After-Christmas Tree Limo Fundraiser**

Please support this town fundraiser again this January! Details on participation can be found in this *Brentwood Newsletter* issue. We raised \$560 this past January. Since no applications were received, this money will go into next Spring's pot. Here's a summary of our efforts since turning this fundraiser into a town grant.

2006: \$740 to the Fourth of July Fireworks Fund

2007: \$818 to the Knight Riders 4-H Club Pilgrim Church project

2008: \$665 to the BRC Playground

2009: \$560....no applications received.

This past February, Selectmen Jeff Bryan, David Menter, George Waldron, Kevin Johnston and Andy Artimovich recognized the volunteer efforts of our Christmas Tree Limo drivers Craig Seeley, Verne Rines, Richie Downing, Matt Eaton, Jim Austin, John and Mark Kennedy, several of whom have been with us for eight years.

If you are a Brentwood community organization or service and need short funds for a specific project, you can apply for this grant and use it to enhance your organization and our community. If you are a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization, you may be eligible for matching grants as well.

Grant applications are now available at the Brentwood town offices and at the library. The grant's criteria are simple:

- Targeted use of funds exclusively for Brentwood community or a Brentwood-based organization
- Imminent need for funds (within one year)
- Financial hardship
- Restricted resources of other funding

There is a May 1 deadline, and award notification is June 1.

*Elyse Seeley*

## **Historical Notes**

The town had a huge roller to use on the roads after heavy snow storms instead of plowing as today. What a wonderful surface that made for sliding!

In 1717 the greatest snow ever known in New England fell in the latter part of April of that year. It was so deep that people were obliged to walk from their chamber windows. It was said to be eight feet on a level, and has ever since been called the great snow.

*Brentwood's 225 Years, Pages 116-117*



## **The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual All-Volunteer**

## **"AFTER CHRISTMAS" TREE LIMO SERVICE**

Sponsored by Brentwood's Board of Selectmen  
All proceeds go to Brentwood's non-profit Tree Limo Grant Fund

2007 Grantee: Brentwood Night Riders 4-H Club

2008 Grantee: Brentwood Recreation Community Playground

**Saturday, January 9, 2010**

**Brentwood's Christmas Tree Limo Service is providing worry-free disposal of your tired, sappy, needle bare Christmas trees.**

### **What do you need to do?**

- Phone #778-9411 or e-mail your tree's reservation to [treelimo@comcast.net](mailto:treelimo@comcast.net) before Friday, January 8 and provide your name, phone number and street address.
- Place your unadorned Christmas tree at the end of your driveway so it is accessible for our drivers. Please remove all tinsel, as trees will be mulched.
- On the morning of January 9 attach a donation of \$10.00 (or more!) to the treetop in a weather-proof bag.
- 

Checks can be made payable to the Brentwood Tree Limo Fund.



**Save your backs! Save your vehicle's paint! Let us get sappy!!**

### **Christmas Fair**

It's that time of year again. Pilgrim Church will be holding its Annual Christmas Fair on **Saturday, December 5 from 9:00 to 1:00**. There will be good food and the joyous, live music of the season. The Craft Tables will feature novelty gifts, some from foreign lands. Sweet treats will be available from both our Bake Table and a Cookie Walk. There will be a Christmas Boutique with both new and vintage holiday items. This is an "upstairs, downstairs event" with several tables of vendor crafts and items upstairs. You will not want to miss our fabulous luncheon that includes Lobster Rolls, Chicken Salad, Corn Chowder, and Chili. Come and catch the Spirit of the season .

*Gene Orcutt*

### **Old Fashioned Christmas Open House at the Historical Society Museum Dec. 10**

Come and join us on **Thursday, December 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm** as we celebrate an Old Fashioned Christmas Open House. Story tellers, carol singing around the tree, displays from yesteryear, bountiful refreshments and a cup of Christmas cheer!

### **First Baptist Church Christmas News**

The First Baptist Church of Brentwood will hold a short traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on **Thursday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m.**, with Pastor Hastings leading the service.

All are welcome and invited to attend. The church is at the corner of North Road and Route 125.

#### **Samaritans Purse gift boxes**

A thank-you to those of you who contributed Christmas boxes to "Samaritans' Purse," a project we have become involved with in the fall of the year. The shoe-size boxes are headed to children of the world, including the USA, who are in need of Christmas cheer due to unfortunate events in their lives, showing them that people a world away care.

You helped us surpass a goal of 100 by making the total 155!! For our little church that was a great undertaking.

*Alma Vahey*

### **Bluegrass Christmas Concert**

There will be a Bluegrass Christmas Concert on **Saturday, December 12, 2009 at the Pilgrim Church**, 197 Middle Road (Route 111A), offering a seasonal blend of Bluegrass & acoustic holiday music. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. All seating is general admission only. The show will begin **at 7:30 PM**, with doors open at 6:45.

The concert will feature Rick Lang & Friends, Blackstone Valley Bluegrass, Amy Gallatin & Roger Williams. The program will showcase music from "The Season Of My Heart" by Rick Lang & Friends, featuring Karen Lincoln Wilber (all original Christmas/Seasonal material from the pen of New Hampshire songwriter Rick Lang); Bob Dick's wonderful solo Bluegrass Christmas CD "Tidings Of Comfort And Joy," performed by the Blackstone Valley Bluegrass (Bob Dick, Dave Dick, Ken Taylor and Dan Nowlan); plus the lovely voice of Amy Gallatin who will be performing some tasty duets with acclaimed dobro ace Roger Williams; and contemporary Christmas tunes with a "Western flavor".

Tickets are available at:

Pilgrim Church, Brentwood – 778-3189  
Acoustic Outfitters, Stratham – 778-9711  
Highland Hardwoods, Brentwood – 679-1230

### **Worship on Christmas Eve**

The members and friends of Pilgrim United Church of Christ Brentwood-Kingston invite you to join us on **Thursday, December 24 at 7:00 PM** for our traditional **Christmas Eve candlelight service**.

Come sing the familiar carols and hear the wonderful Christmas story. Come celebrate the joy of Christmas and the wonder of God's love.

Pilgrim Church is located at 197 Middle Road in Brentwood.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 5 **Pilgrim Church Christmas Fair – 9:00am-1:00pm**, Pilgrim Church, Middle Road  
**Santa at Bartlett Library – 9:00am to noon.** Bring your own cameras please.
- Dec. 7 School Board meeting – 6:15 pm, Swasey School  
Trails Committee – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building  
Firemen's Association – 7:30 pm, Fire House
- Dec. 8 Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Dec. 9 Conservation Commission – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Dec. 10 Historical Society's **"Old Fashioned Christmas Open House" – 6:30-8:30 pm**, Museum
- Dec. 11 **Friday Night Flick – 7:00 pm**, Bartlett Library
- Dec. 12 **Bluegrass Christmas Concert – 7:30 pm**, Pilgrim Church
- Dec. 13 Gardeners' Christmas potluck supper, home of Emily Schmalzer – 6:00 pm.
- Dec. 15 Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Dec. 16 **Brentwood Seniors Christmas luncheon – 11:30 am**, Brentwood Community Center
- Dec. 17 Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
**Final Drop-off date for Fire Dept. Toy Drive**
- Dec. 19 **Santa around town on fire truck, beginning 10 am.**
- Dec. 21 Library Trustees – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library
- Dec. 22 Recreation Commission – 6:30 pm, Sanborn Room, Town Office Building  
Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:00 pm, First Baptist Church, corner North Rd. & Rte 125**  
**Christmas Eve Candles & Carols Service – 7:00 pm, Pilgrim Church UCC, 197 Middle Rd.**
- Dec. 29 Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 4 Trails Committee – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building  
Firemen's Association – 7:30 pm, Firehouse
- Jan. 5 Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 6 Cemetery Trustees – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building
- Jan. 7 Friends of the Library – 9:30 am, Bartlett Library  
Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 9 **"After Christmas" Tree Limo Service.** See page 10.

The public is welcome at all above events

**The Brentwood Newsletter**  
c/o Linda Rousseau, Editor  
90 Prescott Road  
Brentwood, NH 03833-6501

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